



DNR photo



Washingtonians building a solid future for recreation on state lands

Washingtonians love to play outside, and many of us define ourselves by our relationship to the outdoors. Each year, the public makes more than 9 million visits to lands managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

But recreation in Washington State is at a crossroads. Washington's population continues to grow, bringing more visitors to state lands. Newer forms of recreation are gaining popularity. The state's investment in recreation on public lands has not kept pace with the growing number of visitors and the changing face of recreation.

In the next year and a half, you will have the opportunity to help guide the direction of recreation on lands managed by DNR.

Public Workshop Schedule:

(All meetings are from 6 to 9 p.m.)

- September 9 – Issaquah
- September 10 – Okanogan
- September 10 – Olympia
- September 11 – Deer Park
- September 15 – Hoquiam
- September 15 – Vancouver
- September 16 – Port Angeles
- September 16 – Burlington
- September 17 – Ellensburg

For meeting locations, visit the Sustainable Recreation Web page.

(See below.)

Work Group timeline:

- First meeting – September 26, 2008
- Progress report due to legislature – December 2008
- Final recommendations to legislature – December 2009

Contact

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What is the Sustainable Recreation Work Group?

The 2008 Washington State Legislature unanimously adopted a DNR proposal to create the Sustainable Recreation Work Group. The Work Group will make recommendations to the Washington State Legislature on a **long-term vision** for the future of recreation on DNR-managed lands.

Why a long-term vision for recreation?

Washingtonians have embraced recreation on DNR-managed lands on a level and in ways that no one could have anticipated since 1971 when the state last took a strategic look at how the public uses these lands. The increase in population in the state brings an increased use of the land and competition for limited space from a variety of recreational activities.

DNR wants to provide Washingtonians and other visitors with the broadest possible access on a wide range of recreational activities. At the same time, DNR must consider:

- Compatibility with its commitment to managing forestlands, aquatic lands and natural areas.
- Safety of visitors.
- Stewardship of the land and waters to ensure environmental health now and for future generations.

How will the Work Group conduct its business?

In working on a long-term vision for outdoor recreation, the Work Group will:

- Learn about the nature of state lands that DNR manages.
- Evaluate DNR's legal responsibilities.
- Examine the roles of other state agencies in recreation—such as Washington's State Parks and Recreation Commission and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Assess current recreation uses and future trends.
- Learn what citizens are thinking about recreation on DNR-managed lands.

For more information, visit the Sustainable Recreation Work Group Web page at:

www.dnr.wa.gov/RecreationEducation/Topics/RecreationPlanning/Pages/amp_rec_sustainable_recreation.aspx

More ►

Who will serve on the Sustainable Recreation Work Group?

In June 2008, Commissioner of Public Lands Doug Sutherland appointed **James Donaldson** to chair the Work Group. A former professional basketball player for several teams, including the Seattle Super Sonics and the Dallas Mavericks, Donaldson is now a highly regarded community leader and owner of three physical therapy centers in the greater Seattle area. Donaldson will lead a team of Work Group members from diverse backgrounds, all with a tremendous interest in recreation issues in Washington State.

Work Group members (Confirmed September 8, 2008 | Additional membership pending confirmation):

Chair: James Donaldson	Owner	Donaldson Fitness and Physical Therapy
Greg Abrahamson	Chair	Spokane Tribe of Indians
Delia Alred	President	Washington State Snowmobile Association
Arlene Brooks	Washington Executive Director	Pacific Northwest Four Wheel Drive Association
Patti Case	Public/Regulatory Affairs Manager	Green Diamond Resource Company
Bill Chapman	President	Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Jeff Chapman	Director, Buckhorn Range Chapter	Back Country Horsemen of Washington, Inc.
Will Chin	Events Coordinator	REI, Inc.
Michelle Connor	Senior Vice President	Cascade Land Conservancy
Kaleen Cottingham	Director	Recreation and Conservation Office
Rick Dahl	President	Washington Off Highway Vehicle Alliance
Lindell Haggin	Member	Spokane Audubon Society
Gerald Hodge	Kayaker	Washington Water Trails Association Washington Boaters Alliance
Dale Hom	Forest Supervisor	US Forest Service: Olympic National Forest
Bill Koss	Manager, Planning and Research	Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
John Lang	Executive Director	Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance
Dave Lipinski	Owner	Powersports Northwest
Elizabeth Lunney	Executive Director	Washington Trail Association
John Mankowski	Senior Policy Advisor	Governor's Office
West Mathison	President	Stemilt Growers, Inc.
Pedro Naverette	Student Body President	Central Washington University
Tom Perry	President	Hunters Heritage Council
Jennifer Quan	Manager, Lands Division	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Legislators:		
Brian Blake	Washington State Representative	D-19 th Legislative District
Ken Jacobsen	Washington Sate Senator	D-46 th Legislative District
Judy Warnick	Washington State Representative	R-13 th Legislative District